metro®
WEEKEND BOSTON
February 10-12, 2012
letters@metro.us

ROLLING IN THE DEEP

Adele is nominated for six Grammy awards this year, and our readers have predicted she will definitely win the big three {page 07}

DENZEL WASHINGTON AND RYAN REYNOLDS ARE A 'SAFE' BET
FILMS {page 14}

'THE ADDAMS FAMILY' IS NOT AS PAINFUL AS THIS LOOKS
ARTS {page 08}

WHITEST KIDS U' KNOW ARE 'ALMOST SOPHISTICATED'
COMEDY {page 10}

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Bridge work to disrupt Cambridge connections

Spans will get million-dollar makeovers ◗ Construction, however, will cause traffic snarls ◗ Pedestrian walkways will also be interrupted ◗ Users say spans are already hard to cross

Critical transportation links between Cambridge and Boston are getting ready for some extreme makeovers.

While improvements to the dilapidated bridges are necessary as part of the state's Accelerated Bridge Program, officials said cyclists, pedestrians and even motorists should expect traffic snarls and service interruptions during construction.

The Larz Anderson Memorial Bridge, which connects Allston to the Harvard area, is the first scheduled project with work starting in the spring.

The $19 million project, however, will require workers to shut down sidewalks on one-side and funnel cars into a single lane in each direction.

"There will be some congestion," said MassDOT Highway Administrator Frank DePaola.

Currently, bikers try and share space on the sidewalk with pedestrians, or squeeze in between cars on the road.

When the project is finished, the bridge will have dedicated bikes lanes.

"It will make it easier to get the bikes off the sidewalk," said DePaola.

Sarah Paltrineri, 20, who uses the Anderson Bridge twice a day, is looking forward to the improvements, but not the construction.

"It's already damn hard to bike across ... parts of it are really dangerous," she said, noting how she almost gets "clipped" by cars regularly.

Paltrineri said traffic along the bridge is bad enough now, and during the restoration period "it'll jam things up."

STEVE ANNEAR
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Bridging the gap

- The Anderson Bridge project will limit boat passageways to two tunnels.
- Weekday and weekend work will be conducted except during major events like the Head of the Charles.
- Besides the Longfellow, the state is looking to do work on the River Street and Western Avenue bridges.
- It will take two seasons to complete the Anderson Bridge work.
- As of January 2012, the Accelerated Bridge Program has completed 77 bridge projects, with another 67 bridge projects currently in construction.

PHOTOS: NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ The Larz Anderson Memorial Bridge connects Allston to the Harvard area.

▶ The Longfellow Bridge is slated to undergo significant repairs.

Longfellow Bridge

Within the year, work will begin on the Longfellow Bridge, which connects the city to Cambridge.

The $300 million project will include wider bike lanes and sidewalks in each direction and eliminate a lane of traffic heading into Cambridge.

During construction, the bridge will be closed to Cambridge-bound traffic and it could take up to three years before the work on the 105-year-old bridge are completed.

In the news

First lady coming to Boston

First lady Michelle Obama is scheduled to appear in Boston next month. Obama will be in town March 9 for two fundraisers at the Institute of Contemporary Art, according to Boston.com. Tickets for a reception are priced at $500 each, while dinner tickets are $5,000. The money will benefit President Barack Obama's re-election campaign as well as the Democratic National Committee. METRO

Today's local tweet

"People really need to not bathe in perfume before getting on the train. #allergies #gross #mbta"

@EMMY_S ON SOMEONE SMELLING A LITTLE TOO MUCH WHILE RIDING TRANSIT THURSDAY.

National foreclosure settlement nets millions

MASSACHUSETTS. The state will receive hundreds of millions of dollars as part of national settlement with five U.S. banks, it was announced Thursday.

Forty-nine states will split $25 billion reached through a settlement agreement over unlawful foreclosures and robo-signing of documents, according to Attorney General Martha Coakley's office. The banks are Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Citibank and Ally Financial.

Of the Bay State's share, Massachusetts borrowers who lost their homes to foreclosure between 2008 and the end of 2011 and suffered servicing abuse would qualify for a part of $14.6 million in cash. METRO

$310M
Massachusetts' share of a $25 billion settlement with five major U.S. banks over unlawful foreclosures

Cops poke fun at own hacking

BOSTON. Boston police have relaunched its news website — BPDnews.com — after it was hacked in to and shut down by the group Anonymous in retaliation for breaking up the Occupy Boston encampment.

The relaunch features a video with a humorous retelling of the incident.

Watch the video at www.youtube.com/bpdmediarelations. METRO

Police make another child porn arrest

BOSTON. A Needham man pleaded not guilty Thursday to allegedly having images of child pornography on his work computer.

Keith Millan, 54, was charged with five counts of possessing child pornography, according to the Suffolk district attorney's office.

Millan's former employer, a Boston-based property management company, fired him last year after they found the porn on his work computer, authorities said.

Police later found the computer had more than 100 photograph and video files of adults engaging in sexual activity with young boys and girls, authorities said. METRO

$25K
A West Roxbury District Court judge set Millan's bail at $25,000. He was also ordered to not use a computer and have no contact with children under 16. Officials will determine whether he can see his own children.

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New Hub sites are for voyeurs, exhibitionists

Whether you enjoy taking photos of others, or yourself, new sites featuring Bostonians are popping up all over the place and people are taking part.

The latest? "Hotties on the T."

Unlike "Boston T Crush," which launched earlier this month, the site said it's about the "admiration of fine looking men on the T from a male perspective."

Whereas "Boston T Crush" aims at connecting those missed moments between two attractive Hub-goers riding transit, "Hotties" admits they are just ogling gentleman on the underground.

"It boils down to this — everyone of these platforms, even the real big ones [like Facebook] — it's all about exhibitionism and voyeurism," said social media expert and Emerson College professor David Gerzof Richard.

Richard said for some, Facebook and Twitter act as "gateway drugs to social media," which can lead to more risque social sites, like "Boston After Dark," a place where people post explicit nude photos for curious night creatures looking to connect.

"Boston After Dark," a Tumblr blog, has a more exhibitionist goal, describing itself as a space "exclusively for men and women in and around Boston who are feeling 'that way' after dark."

"It's like when a foodie tries a new restaurant they heard about," said Richard. "The social media-types look for new platforms and try them out."

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Mass. gets waiver on NCLB

MASSACHUSETTS. The Obama Administration has granted a waiver to Massachusetts and nine other states from the No Child Left Behind act.

The move means schools will not be mandated to have every child reach a proficient level on English and math standardized tests by 2014.

Officials praised the waiver and said it would mean more attention could be paid to schools that need the most help.

BOSTON.COM

Papers lost from Brighton hospital

BRIGHTON. St. Elizabeth's Medical Center is examining how records with patient's information were found laying outside a Charlestown office building.

A spokesman for the company that owns the hospital told the Boston Herald that the documents were "mishandled" by a vendor. The hospital is investigating.

METRO

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Right's war on women?

ILLUSTRATION: BILLY BECERRA/METRO

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BRAYDEN SIMMS

POLITICAL REALISM FOR THE URBAN SOPHISTICATE

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For complaints, suggestions and LinkedIn invitations, e-mail us at brayden.simms@metro.us.

A surprising issue has been creeping into the national debate, promising potentially disastrous results for the right: women's health.

Last week was dominated by news of the Komen For The Cure controversy, in which the breast cancer fundraiser's decision to defund women's services provider Planned Parenthood erupted in a firestorm of Internet outrage, culminating in the resignation of the principal agent behind the politically motivated move.

Now, Republican politicians are making big noise about a mandate, connected to Obama's signature Affordable Care Act, requiring employers to provide preventative care for women. Because the Catholic Church has taken a strong stance against this rule — claiming that their hospitals and universities ought to be uniquely free of the employer requirement — House Speaker John Boehner has promised to kill the "unambiguous attack on religious freedom." Mitt Romney similarly hit Obama for imposing his "secular vision on America," also pledging to block the law. Rick Santorum has even implied that the requirement puts America on the path toward the guillotine, whatever that means. And Tea Party star Sen. Marco Rubio, at this weekend's Conservative Political Action Conference, drew loud applause in strongly rebuking the measure.

"It seems that Republicans are going against the grain here, with majority support for the mandate even among Catholics."

It does seem, though, that Republicans are going against the grain here, with majority support for the mandate even among Catholics. (One statistic claims 99 percent of American women have made use of contraception. That's a huge voting bloc!)

Beyond that, criticism of this law is simply wrongheaded. For one, the allegedly new mandate has actually been federal law for more than a decade, following a December 2000 ruling by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission finding those who refuse to provide such care in violation of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. (Under the EEOC interpretation, if an institution offers preventative care — including men's medications such as Viagra — then it also must offer birth control coverage.)

But more importantly, mandating that employers provide such basic care for employees is no restriction of religious freedom. Catholic hospitals, which employ plenty of non-Catholics, have no religious freedom; Catholics do, and if they don't want to use contraception that is their federally sponsored right.

Republicans have now introduced several bills to restrict women's access to family planning services, including a bill by Rubio that could impact millions of women — or, put another way, millions of voters.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

Herb Chambers It's Different Here!

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WEEKEND

RUMOR HAS IT

ADELE IS GOING TO CLEAN UP AT THE GRAMMYS!

Adele's song "Chasing Pavements" was nominated for two of the big three in 2009, but that was her debut, so the only two statues she took home that night were for Best New Artist and Best Female Pop Vocal Performance. Not that this is small change. It's two more Grammys than we have!

- The singer is poised to sweep the big three categories this year, not something which happens very often
- But of course, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences is not always predictable in approach

Only a handful of artists have been nominated for all of the big three Grammy awards — Record of the Year, Album of the Year and Song of the Year — and even fewer artists sweep those categories. In fact, in the Grammys' 53-year history, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences has only given eight artists awards for all three in one night. But if ever there was a year where a big three-sweep seemed likely, all eyes will be on Adele on Sunday.

Not only is the British singer nominated for six awards, half of which the big three, but her album, "21" just hit No. 1 on the Billboard charts again at the beginning of this month. The album, which has sold upwards of 7.5 million copies — a major feat in the age of the illegal download — has been a crossover hit, resonating with everyone from teens to soccer moms. Sunday night will also mark her first performance since having throat surgery to fix bleeding in her larynx in November.

Bruno Mars was also nominated for all of the big three, but was not favored to win any of the categories. In a Metro poll, 73 percent of readers picked Adele as winning Record of the Year, 54 percent for Album of the Year and 52 percent for Song of the Year.

PAT HEALY
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Quoted

"I'm excited for Adele. It definitely seems like it's her year. ... But then again, that year when Amy swept everything, everyone thought that Album of the Year was definitely hers."

MARK RONSON, WHO PRODUCED AMY WINEHOUSE'S 2007 BREAKOUT SMASH, "BACK TO BLACK," WHICH MANY EXPECTED TO SWEEP THE BIG THREE AWARDS IN 2008

Not quite justice for all

A sweep in the big three by Adele is by no means a sure thing. The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences is nothing if not totally unpredictable. Remember when Justin Bieber first came on the scene in 2010 and was absolutely everywhere by 2011? One of those places was the Best New Artist category, where Biebs was defeated by Esperanza Spalding.

In 2008, Herbie Hancock won the Album of the Year Grammy for "River: The Joni Letters." Not that this isn't a worthy project, but compared to nominations like "Graduation" by Kanye West and "Back to Black" by Amy Winehouse, it certainly was a surprise. That year, Winehouse won Song of the Year and Record of the Year. In an interview with Metro on Thursday, Winehouse producer Mark Ronson was charitable, saying, "Hancock won, deservedly so."

In 1988, the first year that the Academy featured a Hard Rock/Metal category, the Grammy went to Jethro Tull. Yup, the band that features a flute as their main instrument won the Hard Rock/Metal award, defeating AC/DC, Iggy Pop, Jane's Addiction and Metallica, whose classic album "...And Justice for All" was favored to win.

2

They had it allllll

▶ Cross

Winners of the big three

- **Dixie Chicks, 2007**
- **Norah Jones, 2003**
- **Santana, 2000**
- **Eric Clapton, 1993**
- **Natalie Cole (with Nat King Cole), 1992**
- **Christopher Cross, 1981:** Christopher Cross was not only a founder of the yacht rock movement, but he and Norah Jones were the only sweepers who also netted the Best New Artist award the same year they swept the big three.
- **Carole King, 1972**
- **Simon & Garfunkel, 1971**

Tune-in

The Grammys air on Sunday at 8 p.m. on CBS.

TV watch list

▶ Clockwise from left: Ming, Brian, Walt, Mike and Kevin Smith are "Comic Book Men."

BEN LEUNER/AMC

'Comic Book Men'

REALITY. The celebration of geekery is a hallmark of Kevin Smith's career. Along with the guys who work at and visit the filmmaker's comic book shop, Jay and Silent Bob's Secret Stash in Red Bank, N.J., Smith now brings that love of all things "uncool" to reality TV with this series, which documents the self-described nerds at work — which looks like the play of 10-year-olds. **Series premiere, Sunday, 10 p.m., AMC** ● **AMBER RAY**

JEREMY DANIEL

'Family' values

▶ From left, Patrick D. Kennedy as Pugsley, Pippa Pearthree as Grandma, Gettelfinger, Sills, Corbeil, Cortney Wolfson as Wednesday and Hammond are "The Addams Family."

◗ Every Addams puts the fun in both funeral and dysfunctional ◗ There's no hit songs, but good laughs

Panned by critics when it hit Broadway, "The Addams Family," a musical tale of America's eeriest family, was nonetheless an instant hit.

While the fan favorite may lack a memorable score and have hardly a wisp of a plot, it more than compensates for these critical shortcomings with its silly, ooky, kooky fun.

From the moment Thing opens the curtain, laughter abounds in this delightful spectacle that feels like a visit with eccentric old friends.

The macabre mob sings, dances and captures every subtle nuance that made the '60s sitcom such a quirky delight. Blake Hammond is spot-on as Uncle Fester and Tom Corbeil somehow gets the biggest ovation with the fewest lines in his dead-ringer turn as Lurch.

Sara Gettelfinger nails Morticia's deadpanning while Douglas Sills delivers not only the show's strongest vocal performance, but a phenomenal turn as Latin lothario Gomez.

"The Addams Family" is a big production with a large ensemble, lots of scene changes and enough smoke and mirrors to make their impeccable execution reason enough to see the show.

No matter how impressive this flawless production may be, the thing you'll remember most about it is how much fun this dysfunctional family is.

NICK DUSSAULT
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If you go

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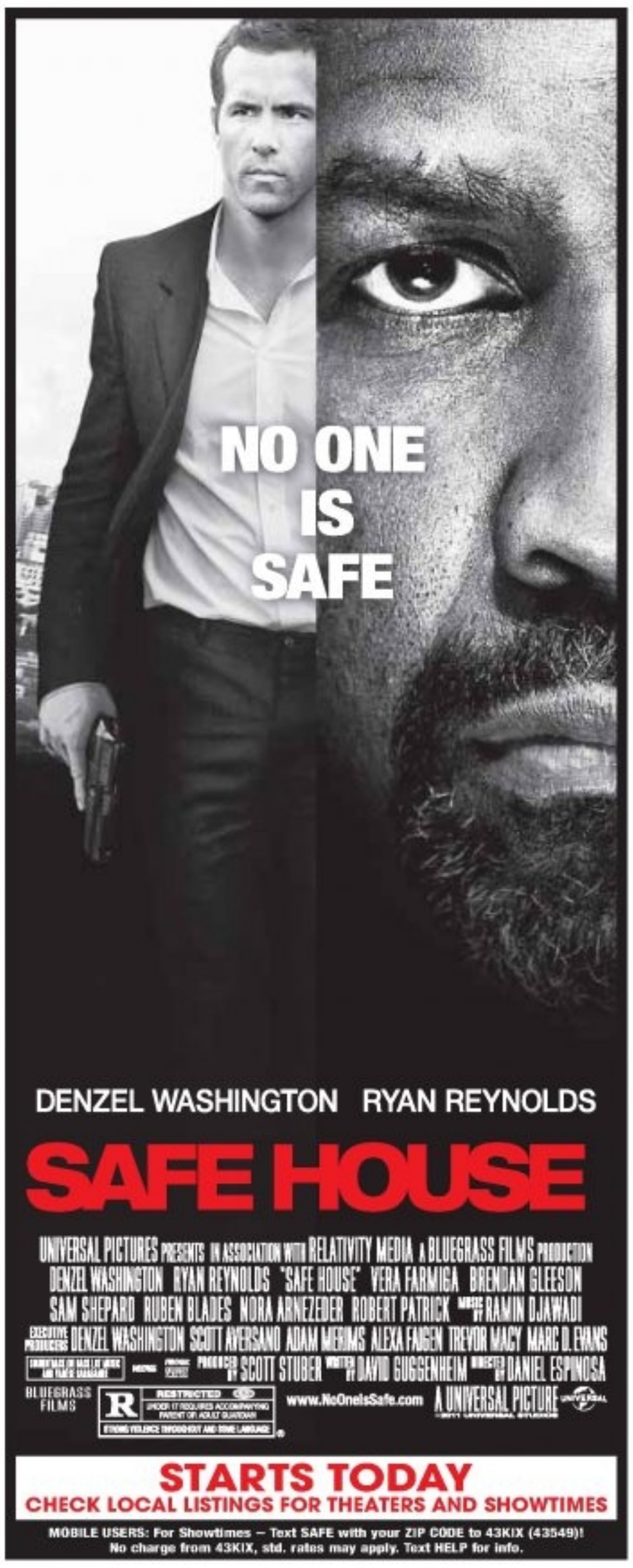
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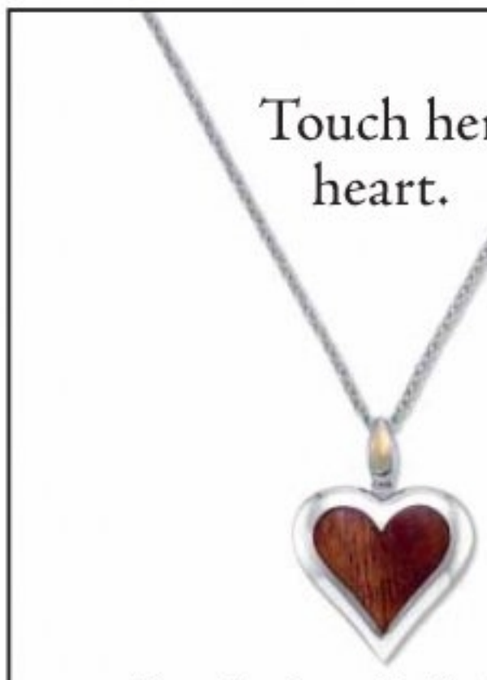

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Loews Boston Common 19
617-423-5801
At the corner of Tremont & Avery St.
THE ARTIST (PG-13) 11:25, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST 3D (G) 10:15. RealD 3D
BIG MIRACLE (PG) 11:55, 2:35, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25. Digital Presentation
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) 11:20, 1:30, 3:45, 6:10, 8:35, 11:10. Digital Presentation
CONTRABAND (R) 4:05, 10:10. Digital Presentation
THE DESCENDANTS (R) 10:25, 1:25, 4:35, 7:25, 10:20.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) 1:00, 7:10. Digital Presentation
THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO (R) 10:10, 4:25. Digital Presentation
THE GREY (R) Fri 11:10, 2:05, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 11:10-2:05-4:50-7:55-11:00. Digital Presentation
HAPPY (NR) Sat 11:00.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
HUGO (PG) Fri and Sat 11:45, 2:45, 5:45, 8:50, 11:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:45-2:45-5:45-8:50. Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (PG) 10:20, 8:00. Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND 3D (PG) Fri 11:30, 12:50, 3:30, 6:00, 11:20. RealD 3D; Sat and Sun 12:50-3:30-6:00-11:20. RealD 3D
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG) Fri 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 12:00. IMAX 3D; Sat 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30-12:00. IMAX 3D; Sun 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30. IMAX 3D
MAN ON A LEDGE (PG-13) 1:55, 10:35. Digital Presentation
ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 10:35. Digital Presentation
PINA 3D (PG) 11:35, 2:30, 5:15, 8:25.C INDEPENDENT;RealD 3D
RED TAILS (PG-13) Fri 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sat 1:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:45. Digital Presentation
SAFE HOUSE (R) Fri 11:00, 12:15, 1:45, 3:00, 4:45, 5:50, 7:45, 8:30, 10:40, 11:30. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:00-12:30-1:45-3:15-4:45-5:55-7:45-8:40-10:40-11:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-12:15-1:45-3:00-4:45-5:50-7:45-8:30-10:40. Digital Presentation
STAR WARS: EPISODE I - THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 10:00, 1:05, 4:15, 7:30, 8:15, 10:50, 11:35. RealD 3D; Sun 10:00-1:05-4:15-7:30-8:15-10:50. RealD 3D
UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING 3D (R) 12:35, 3:05, 5:30, 7:50, 10:05. RealD 3D
THE VOW (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:05, 11:15, 12:45, 1:50, 3:20, 4:20, 6:05, 7:00, 8:45, 9:40, 11:25, 12:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:05-11:15-12:45-1:50-3:20-4:20-6:05-7:00-8:45-9:40. Digital Presentation
W.E. (R) 10:30, 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
THE WOMAN IN BLACK (PG-13) Fri 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:55, 11:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 4:35-7:15-9:45-12:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 1:40-4:35-7:15-9:45. Digital Presentation

REGAL CINEMAS

Fenway 13 & RPX
617-424-6266
201 Brookline Ave.
THE ARTIST (PG-13) Fri 1:20, 3:45, 6:50, 9:45; Sat 6:50-9:45.; Sun 1:20-3:45-6:50-9:45.
BIG MIRACLE (PG) Fri 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 9:50; Sat 7:05-9:50.; Sun 1:20-4:10-7:05-9:50.
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:30, 4:05, 7:20, 10:10, 12:30; Sun 1:30-4:05-7:20-10:10.
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri 1:05, 6:55. OC-Open Caption; Fri 3:50-10:00.; Sat 1:05-6:55.; Sat 3:50-10:00. OC-Open Caption; Sun 1:05-10:00. OC-Open Caption; Sun 3:50-6:55.
EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) 4:30, 10:20
THE GREY (R) Fri and Sat 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:25, 12:15; Sun 1:25-4:20-7:15-10:00.
HUGO 3D (PG) 1:00, 6:40. RealD 3D
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (PG) 4:15
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND 3D (PG) 1:30, 7:00, 9:40. RealD 3D
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: GOTTERDAMMERUNG (NR) Sat 12:00
SAFE HOUSE (R) Fri and Sat 1:00, 1:45, 3:55, 7:10, 7:40, 10:30, 12:05; Sun 1:00-1:45-3:55-7:10-7:40-9:50.
STAR WARS: EPISODE I - THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 1:10, 4:25, 7:35, 10:40. RPX;RealD 3D; Sun 1:10-4:25-7:25-10:20. RPX;RealD 3D
UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING 3D (R) Fri and Sat 4:00, 9:55, 12:10. RealD 3D; Sun 4:00-9:55. RealD 3D
THE VOW (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:00, 1:40, 3:35, 4:35, 6:45, 7:25, 9:30, 10:15, 12:00; Sun 1:00-1:40-3:35-4:35-6:45-7:35-9:30-10:15.
THE WOMAN IN BLACK (PG-13) Fri and Sat 1:15, 3:40, 7:30, 10:05, 12:25; Sun 1:15-3:40-7:30-10:05.

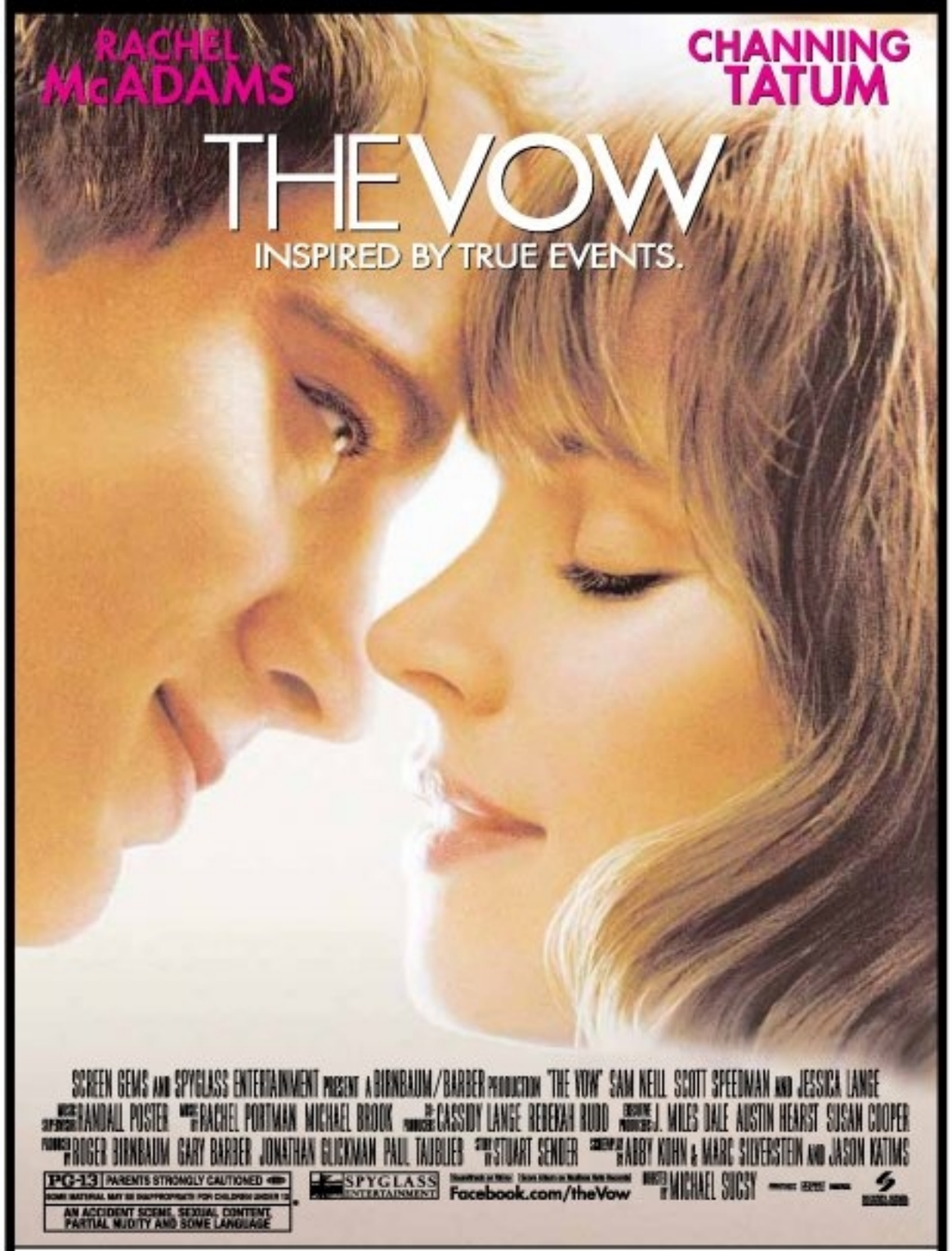
the COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Corner Theatre
617-734-2500
290 Harvard St., Brookline
2012 OSCAR SHORTS: DOCUMENTARY (NR) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50
ALBERT NOBBS (R) Fri 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40; Sat 4:30-7:15-9:40.; Sun 2:10-4:30-7:15-9:40.
THE IRON LADY (PG-13) 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
MOULIN ROUGE! (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:00
THE ROOM (R) Fri 12:00
TANGLEWOOD MARIONETTES: THE DRAGON KING (NR) Sun 10:30
THE THEATRE BIZARRE (NR) Fri and Sat 12:00
TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY (R) 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Braintree 10
888-AMC-4FUN
Route 93 off of Exit 6
BIG MIRACLE (PG) Fri and Sat 11:40, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Fri and Sat 11:40-2:30-5:15-8:00-10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:40-2:30-5:15-7:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:40-2:30-5:15-7:50. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:35, 1:00, 3:25, 5:50, 8:10, 10:25. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:35-1:00-3:25-5:50-8:05. Digital Presentation
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri 10:05, 1:00, 3:50, 6:45, 9:40.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sat 3:50-6:45-9:40.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:05-1:00-3:50-6:45.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) Fri 12:00, 3:00. Digital Presentation; Sat 9:45-12:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:15-2:15. Digital Presentation
THE GREY (R) Fri and Sat 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:30-1:30-4:30-7:15. Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (PG) 2:50. Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 9:45, 12:15, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35. RealD 3D; Sun 9:45-12:15-5:25-8:00. RealD 3D
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: GOTTERDAMMERUNG (NR) Sat 12:00
SAFE HOUSE (R) Fri 9:55, 12:45, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00, 10:00. Digital Presentation; Sat 9:55-12:45-4:00-7:00-8:00-10:00-10:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:55-12:45-4:00-5:30-7:00-8:15. Digital Presentation
STAR WARS: EPISODE I - THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 9:50, 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45. RealD 3D; Sun 9:50-1:00-4:15-7:30. RealD 3D
THE VOW (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:10, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:35. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-2:05-4:55-7:45. Digital Presentation
THE WOMAN IN BLACK (PG-13) Fri and Sat 9:50, 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:50-12:10-2:30-4:50-7:20. Digital Presentation

THIS VALENTINE'S DAY WEEKEND, MAKE A DATE.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RANDALL POSTER RACHEL PORTMAN MICHAEL BROOK CASSIDY LANGE REBEKAH RUDD J. MILES DALE AUSTIN HEARST SUSAN COOPER
ROGER BIRNBAUM GARY BARBER JONATHAN GLICKMAN PAUL TAUBLIEB STUART SENDER ABBY KOHN & MARC SILVERSTEIN AND JASON KATIMS
PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
AN ACCIDENT SCENE, SEXUAL CONTENT, PARTIAL NUDITY AND SOME LANGUAGE
SPYGLASS ENTERTAINMENT
Facebook.com/theVow
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL SUCSY

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SONY make.believe

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Burlington Cinema 10
888-AMC-4FUN
Across from Burlington Mall
BIG MIRACLE (PG) Fri and Sat 10:00, 1:00, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:00-1:00-4:10-6:50. Digital Presentation
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) Fri 9:30, 12:50, 3:30, 6:00, 8:20, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sat 4:30. Digital Presentation
THE GREY (R) Fri 11:40, 2:20, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:40-8:10-11:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:40-2:20-5:20-8:10. Digital Presentation
HAPPY (NR) Sat 11:00.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) 1:30, 7:30. RealD 3D
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (PG) Fri 9:50, 1:20. Digital Presentation; Sat 1:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:50-1:20-2:30. Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND 3D (PG) 10:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50. RealD 3D
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: GOTTERDAMMERUNG (NR) Sat 12:00
ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) Fri 11:10, 1:40, 4:05. Digital Presentation; Sat 2:20-5:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:30-12:00-5:10. Digital Presentation
SAFE HOUSE (R) Fri and Sat 11:20, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-2:00-5:00-8:00. Digital Presentation
STAR WARS: EPISODE I - THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 9:30, 12:35, 4:00, 7:40, 10:30. RealD 3D; Sun 9:30-12:35-4:00-7:40. RealD 3D
THE VOW (PG-13) Fri 9:30, 12:05, 2:50, 5:40, 6:30, 8:30, 9:20, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sat 9:30-12:05-2:50-5:40-7:00-8:30-9:30-11:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:30-12:05-2:50-5:40-7:30-8:30. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Lowes Harvard Square 5
888-AMC-4FUN
10 Church St., Cambridge
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) Fri 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 7:55, 10:00. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:10-1:45-3:50-5:55-7:55-9:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-1:45-3:50-5:55-7:55-10:00. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) Fri 1:30, 4:15, 6:55, 9:40. RealD 3D; Sat 10:45-RealD 3D; Sun 10:55-1:10-4:05-7:00-9:55. RealD 3D
THE VOW (PG-13) Fri 2:20, 4:45, 7:05, 9:30. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:30-2:20-4:45-7:05-9:30-11:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:30-2:20-4:45-7:05-9:30. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Loews Liberty Tree Mall 20
888-AMC-4FUN
Exit 24 (Endicott St.) off Rt. 128
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: CHIPWRECKED (G) 10:20, 12:40, 3:00. Digital Presentation
THE ARTIST (PG-13) 11:05, 1:40, 4:10, 6:45, 9:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST 3D (G) 10:45, 12:55, 3:10, 5:30. RealD 3D
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:25, 12:35, 2:45, 4:55, 7:10, 9:35, 10:35, 11:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:25-12:35-2:45-4:55-7:10-9:35-10:35. Digital Presentation
CONTRABAND (R) 5:15, 7:50, 10:30. Digital Presentation
THE DESCENDANTS (R) 10:50, 1:30, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) 10:40, 1:35, 4:30, 7:25, 10:25. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO (R) 2:35, 6:30, 10:00. Digital Presentation
THE GREY (R) Fri and Sat 10:55, 1:55, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45, 12:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:55-1:55-4:45-7:45-10:45. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) 10:15, 1:05, 4:05, 6:55, 9:55. RealD 3D
THE IRON LADY (PG-13) 11:10, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (PG) 1:00. Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND 3D (PG) 10:30, 3:25, 5:50, 8:15, 10:40. RealD 3D
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG) Fri 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40, 12:05. IMAX 3D; Sat 9:45-12:00-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40-12:05. IMAX 3D; Sun 12:00-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40. IMAX 3D
MAN ON A LEDGE (PG-13) 11:15, 5:05. Digital Presentation
ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:20, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25, 11:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-2:10-4:35-7:00-9:25. Digital Presentation
PINA 3D (PG) Fri 4:00.C INDEPENDENT;RealD 3D; Sat 11:00.C INDEPENDENT;RealD 3D; Sun 4:00.C INDEPENDENT;RealD 3D
RED TAILS (PG-13) 11:25. Digital Presentation
SAFE HOUSE (R) Fri and Sat 10:30, 11:30, 1:10, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:40, 7:40, 8:40, 9:20, 10:20, 11:35, 12:05. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:30-11:30-1:10-2:15-4:00-5:00-6:40-7:40-8:40-9:20-10:20. Digital Presentation
STAR WARS: EPISODE I - THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (PG) Fri 10:15, 12:15, 1:15, 3:15, 4:15, 6:15, 7:15, 9:15, 10:15, 11:20, 12:15. RealD 3D; Sat 10:15-12:15-1:15-2:15-3:15-4:15-5:15-6:15-7:15-9:15-10:15-11:20-12:15. RealD 3D; Sun 10:15-12:15-1:15-3:15-4:15-6:15-7:15-9:15-10:15. RealD 3D
TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY (R) 2:00, 7:35.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING 3D (R) Fri 10:35, 1:25, 6:35, 9:00, 11:30. RealD 3D; Sat 8:30-10:50. RealD 3D; Sun 10:35-1:25-6:35-9:00. RealD 3D
THE WOMAN IN BLACK (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:15, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, 12:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:15-12:30-2:50-5:10-7:30-9:50. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Loews Methuen 20
888-AMC-4FUN
Rte. 213 between I-93 & I-495
THE ARTIST (PG-13) 11:10, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST 3D (G) 1:45, 6:50. RealD 3D
BIG MIRACLE (PG) 10:45, 11:45, 1:25, 2:25, 4:10, 5:00, 6:45, 9:30. Digital Presentation
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) 10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20. Digital Presentation
CONTRABAND (R) 7:45, 10:30. Digital Presentation
THE DESCENDANTS (R) 11:45, 3:00, 6:15, 9:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
EK MAIN AUR EKK TU (NR) 11:15, 2:00, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30. Digital Presentation
EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) 12:35, 3:30, 6:30, 9:45. Digital Presentation
THE GREY (R) Fri and Sat 11:25, 2:10, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:25-2:10-5:00-8:00-10:45. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) 10:45, 4:00, 9:15. RealD 3D
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (PG) 1:55. Digital Presentation
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND 3D (PG) 11:30, 4:25, 7:00, 9:40. RealD 3D
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG) 10:30, 12:55, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35. IMAX 3D
MAN ON A LEDGE (PG-13) 11:15, 7:30. Digital Presentation
ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) 2:00, 10:15. Digital Presentation
RED TAILS (PG-13) 4:30. Digital Presentation
SAFE HOUSE (R) Fri and Sat 11:00, 11:45, 1:50, 2:40, 4:40, 5:30, 7:35, 8:20, 10:20, 11:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-11:45-1:50-2:40-4:40-5:30-7:35-8:20-10:20. Digital Presentation
STAR WARS: EPISODE I - THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (PG) 10:25, 12:15, 1:30, 3:30, 4:35, 6:45, 7:40, 9:55, 10:45. RealD 3D
UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING (R) 10:25, 3:15, 8:15. Digital Presentation
UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING 3D (R) 12:45, 5:45, 10:45. RealD 3D
THE VOW (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:15, 12:15, 2:00, 3:05, 4:45, 5:45, 7:30, 8:30, 10:15, 11:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:15-12:15-2:00-3:05-4:45-5:45-7:30-8:30-10:15. Digital Presentation
THE WOMAN IN BLACK (PG-13) 11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15. Digital Presentation

SOMERVILLE THEATRE

Somerville Theatre
617-625-5700
55 Davis Square
CHRONICLE (2012/ I) (PG-13) Fri 5:00, 7:15, 9:20; Sat 2:00-5:00-7:15-9:20.; Sun 2:00-5:00-7:15.
THE GREY (R) Fri 4:45, 7:30, 10:00; Sat 1:45-4:45-7:30-10:00.; Sun 1:45-4:45-7:30.
SAFE HOUSE (R) Fri 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; Sat 2:10-4:40-7:20-9:50.; Sun 2:10-4:40-7:20.
THE VOW (PG-13) Fri 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; Sat 2:15-4:30-7:00-9:30.; Sun 2:15-4:30-7:00.

CAPITOL THEATRE

Capitol Theatre
781-648-4340
204 Massachusetts Avenue
THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN 3D (PG) Fri 4:45; Sat and Sun 2:15-4:45.
BIG MIRACLE (PG) Fri 5:20, 7:40, 9:50; Sat 12:45-3:00-5:20-7:40-9:50.; Sun 12:45-3:00-5:20-7:40.
EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 7:20, 9:55; Sun 7:20.
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND 3D (PG) Fri 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40; Sat 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40.; Sun 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:30.
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri 4:20; Sat and Sun 1:20-4:20.
ONE FOR THE MONEY (PG-13) Fri and Sat 7:40, 9:30; Sun 7:40.
SHERLOCK HOLMES: A GAME OF SHADOWS (PG-13) Fri and Sat 7:15, 9:45; Sun 7:15.
STAR WARS: EPISODE I - THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (PG) Fri 4:10, 7:00, 9:45; Sat 1:10-4:10-7:00-9:45.; Sun 1:10-4:10-7:00.

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COURTESY OF IFC

Brown, far left, says the Whitest Kids' approach is "smart jokes about dumb stuff" and vice-versa.

After airing five seasons of TV sketch comedy — the first on Fuse and four on IFC — the comedic team known as the Whitest Kids U' Know are taking a hiatus from the tube and taking their show on the road.

"We were ready to take a break from doing a sketch show," notes member Sam Brown. "Whenever you write sketches, it's inevitable that you'll think of an idea that you think is really funny and then you realize that "The State or Kids in the Hall did it. It sucks, but you just throw out your work and go back to the drawing board. ... I needed a break from writing 100-plus sketches every year to put on TV."

What began as a college comedy troupe at New York City's School for the Visual Arts in 2000, WKUK at one point enlisted as many as 11 members, but now have a core group of five. Joining Brown are founder Trevor Moore, Zach Cregger, Timmy Williams and Dan Trumeter.

"We probably would have changed the name," notes Brown. "But we're pretty lazy. People often ask us where we got our name and we all have different memories. But it's like when you're a dude named Engelbert, you wish you could have changed it. But at some point you get successful, so your name is Engelbert."

Reviewed as everything from "crass" to "almost sophisticated," Brown says that the group's comedic approach is "to do really smart jokes about dumb stuff, and really dumb jokes about smart stuff."

Performing Friday at Royale, the Whitest Kids will revert back to their roots with a show of live sketch comedy. Then they head over to the Brattle Theatre to host a midnight screening of their film, "The Civil War on Drugs."

"Many times our sketches are spilling out into the audience," says Brown of the live show. "A lot of the time, the thing that's on the stage is not what you're paying attention to. We challenge the audience."

If you go

Whitest Kids U' Know
Friday, 6:30 p.m.
Royale
279 Tremont St., Boston
$12-$15, 617-338-7699
www.ticketmaster.com

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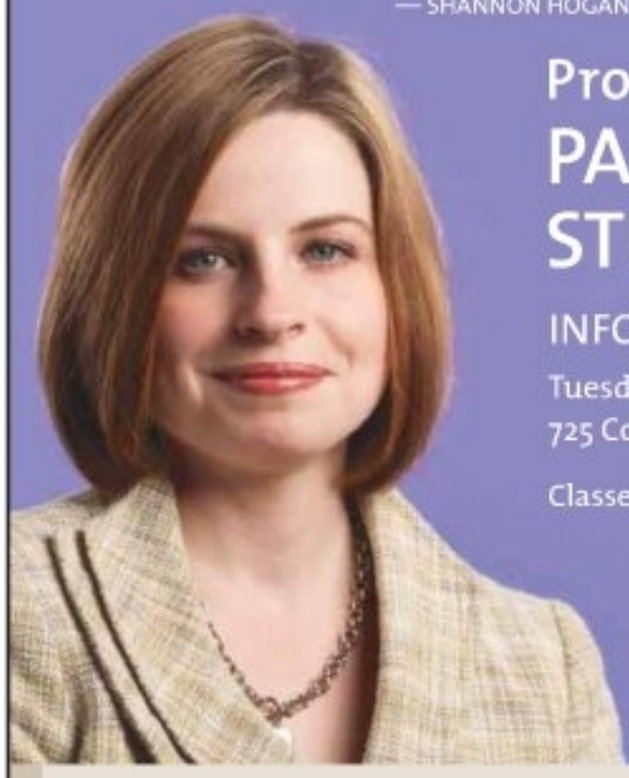
— SHANNON HOGAN, paralegal; BU certificate awarded 2011



Program in PARALEGAL STUDIES

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725 Commonwealth Avenue, Room 314

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer. Today, Patton Oswalt is taking responsibility, Olivia Wilde is getting ready to say goodbye, Aimee Mann is becoming a couch potato and Matthew Lucas is impressed with a newspaper's resourcefulness.

@pattonoswalt
Three days after I was born, The Beatles played their last concert (1/30/69). My bad.

@oliviawilde
House lovers, it's the end of an era. Shows like that don't happen, well, ever. I'm honored to have been a part of such a brilliant story.

@aimeemann
Tonight, I'm staying in and proving to myself that I really will watch just about anything on tv.

@RealMattLucas
Huge congratulations to The Daily Star for making up an interview with me today.

Mann

Lindsay Lohan

Christina Aguilera

Britney Spears

Taylor Armstrong

Let's wave goodbye to the blond weave

Well, that's it. By appearing at an amfAR gala on Wednesday night in New York City with that rug on her head, **Lindsay Lohan** has officially killed the blond, wavy weave look. But is that such a bad thing? The blond weave has had a good run. (How good did 52-year-old **Madonna** look with one while performing at Sunday night's Super Bowl?) But the look — it's getting a bit tired, no? Like, we get it: You're a human Barbie doll, good for you. Take a gander at a few more offenders who we think could stand an update.

Jessica Simpson

Rihanna and Chris Brown back at the Grammys

Three years ago, **Chris Brown** brutally assaulted his then-girlfriend, pop star **Rihanna**, the night before the Grammy Awards. This Sunday will be the first time since then that both singers will attend and perform at the event.

It will be very interesting to see how the red carpet emcees, cameramen, and even Rihanna and Chris Brown will treat their proximity. Will there be mention of it? Will the Grammys try to exploit it for some much-needed excitement? I have a feeling it will be swept under the rug, and no mention of it will be made. But I've been wrong before, hence this giant "**Katy** and **Russell** 4-Eva" tattoo on my thigh.

Talking points

Brand and Perry: It's officially ovah

Well, that was fast. **Katy Perry** has signed **Russell Brand**'s divorce settlement, reaching an agreement to end their 14-month marriage, according to TMZ. "The parties have entered into a comprehensive written settlement of all issues, including, without limitation, with respect to the property to be confirmed or assigned to each party," the document reads, outlining that Brand isn't after any of Perry's money. The former couple insisted their split was amicable, and that's certainly the case if Perry's signature is any indication: She signed the divorce settlement with a little smiley face next to her name.

Courtney Cox can't get a date

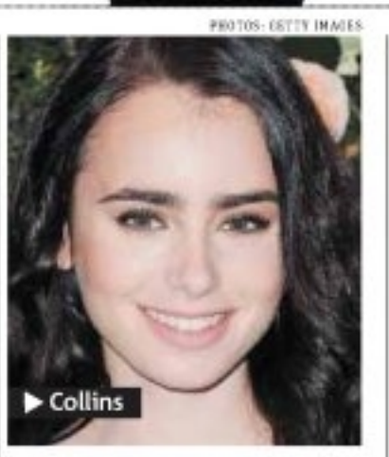
Courteney Cox hasn't been having much luck in the romance department since her split from husband **David Arquette**, she admits in an interview with **Howard Stern**. "No guy's asked me out. I'm not saying I'm not ready to have a make-out session, but it just makes me nervous. I don't like to go out in general," she says. "I have sexual feelings, and there's ways to deal with that." But Cox admits that dating needs to make its way to the top of her agenda: "It's time for me to get out there. It's not easy to meet people. They don't call me," she explains.

A new lady for Efron?

Zac Efron and "Mirror Mirror" star **Lily Collins** were spotted attending a birthday party for a pal of Efron's together at L.A. restaurant STK recently, prompting speculation that the young actors are now an item, according to People magazine. "They even walked in holding hands," a source says. "They had a drink at the bar together and then joined the birthday crew on the patio." That same night, though, Efron hit up nightclub Lexington Social House to hang out with **Miley Cyrus**.

▶ Efron

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES


▶ Collins

'Blue Ivy Carter' is now trademarked

Blue Ivy Carter, the 1-month-old daughter of **Jay-Z** and **Beyonce**, is set to be a household name, so naturally her parents felt the need to trademark it. In late January, the couple filed an application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to prevent Blue Ivy's name from being used, according to the Washington Post. And they weren't just being paranoid, as the office had already received — and denied — multiple applications for trademarks using the baby's name, including a fashion design entrepreneur and a fragrance company. Both were rejected, with the office citing that the name belongs "to a very famous infant."

No boobs to expose on the mountain

Justin Timberlake reportedly skipped the Super Bowl to celebrate his 31st birthday with a weekend of skiing in British Columbia, Canada, according to the Calgary Herald. "One of our employees had quite the interesting experience. It was one of those 'no way, no way, that's not him' moments," the owner of a local ski shop tells the newspaper. "He was smaller than [we] thought. And he was going around with a bit of a beard."

Posing with their Grammys

1. Does it sound like the ocean? **Sting** with his Grammy after winning for Best Male Pop Vocal Performance for "Brand New Day" at the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles in 2000.

2. Oh, baby! **Chris Rock** tossed his Grammy in 1998 after winning it for Best Spoken Comedy Album.

3. Norah Jones dropped one of her five Grammy statues in 2003 in New York City.

4. U2 frontman **Bono** stacked his Grammy Award with a Guinness Stout (which one was better, Bono?) backstage at the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles in 2001.

5. Rapper **T-Pain** showed his affection for his statue in the press room in Los Angeles in 2008.

6. After winning a Grammy for Best Spoken Comedy Album for "**Robin Williams** – Live 2002," Williams held his award in a very strategic place.

7. Uh-oh! Musician **Taylor Swift** pulled a Norah Jones when she dropped one of her awards in 2010.

1: LUCY NICHOLSON/AFP/ GETTY IMAGES
2: MATT CAMPBELL/AFP/ GETTY IMAGES
3: SCOTT GRIES/ GETTY IMAGES
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T|A|G
theater & arts guide

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Sander's Theatre, Cambridge, MA
Harvard Box Office: (617) 496-2222
www.bostonconservatory.edu/perform

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Reviews

'Safe House'

Grade: ❶❷❸❹❺

Here's the premise: Highly trained CIA agent Tobin Frost (Denzel Washington) goes rogue by selling intelligence to enemies of the United States. Wanted for treason for 11 years, he suddenly turns himself in at the Cape Town, South Africa, U.S. Embassy. Why he did it isn't clear, but after a break-in at the safe house where he's held captive with a rookie agent (Ryan Reynolds), it seems that Frost isn't the only one performing covert operations.

Though nimble in its pacing, "Safe House" peddles the same message that always seems to surface in these spy thrillers. We don't really have to explain it. You'll see twist coming about 30 minutes into the film anyway.

But "Safe House" is a dizzying ride. One unique aspect to the film is the setting of Cape Town, in which the sparkling coastal city and the impoverished districts that surround it are given an equal amount of scrutiny. But we found ourselves wanting to explore those shanty towns rather than continue to follow Washington and Reynolds on their crazy-violent mission.

Also refreshing are the barbed exchanges between captor and captive, Reynolds and Washington, as they flee to another secure safe house. In these types of movies, the plot usually gets resolved with a lovefest for a newfound friendship, but this film thankfully manages to avoid that sort of expectation.

HEIDI PATALANO

JASIN BOLAND

▶ Reynolds and Washington

'Journey 2: The Mysterious Island'

Grade: ❶❷❸❹❺

A follow-up to 2008's "Journey to the Center of the Earth," "Journey 2" takes an effects-laden three-dimensional look at Jules Verne's "The Mysterious Island" — a slickly crafted world full of kooky dwarf elephants and mule-sized bumblebees. Formulaic and full of familiar characters, this harmless family fare draws on youthful adventure, but Dwayne Johnson's annoying pec-popping and deft ukulele skills still won't keep the sinking "Mysterious Island" afloat for discerning moviegoers.

STEVE GOW

SCREEN GEMS

'The Vow'

Grade: ❶❷❸❹❺

Rachel McAdams can carry an entire movie on her back no matter how many times this script goes off the rails and into Lifetime movie territory. It's impossible to dislike her, and that's what grounds "The Vow" when Channing Tatum, all muscle and pouty lips, struts off a J.Crew catalog shoot and into a scene. He's so much of a beefcake, it's distracting. But this is actually a sweet story about a woman's quest to remember her life as it was before a car accident renders her an amnesiac. For a film that lies smack dab in the middle of cornball country, there aren't many gimmicks here.

HEIDI PATALANO

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The roundup

▶ Nimbaya

MUSIC

Nimbaya
Sunday, 3 p.m.
Sanders Theatre
45 Quincy St., Cambridge
$22-$28, 617-876-4275
www.worldmusic.org
This all-female Guinean dance and percussion group wear leopard skin dresses and used to go by the awesome name Amazones Women Master Drummers. They exist in defiance of a taboo against female drummers, but their contagiously enthusiastic, densely rhythmic frenzy of a performance, complete with choreographed drum switching, seems proof enough that the taboo needs to be reconsidered.

Early Cartoons with Prepared Piano
Saturday, 7 p.m.
Center for Arts at the Armory
191 Highland Ave., Somerville
$10-$12, 617-718-2191
www.artsatthearmory.org
Roger Miller is best known as the guitarist for Bostonian art-punks Mission of Burma, but his own musical explorations, informed by such experimental composers as John Cage, are even more outré. Here, he'll perform on the prepared (i.e., screwed-with) piano before showing some obscure pre-1950s cartoons.

BRETT SCHEWITZ

Soweto Gospel Choir

Sunday, 3 p.m.
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
$47-$60, 617-482-6661
www.celebrityseries.org
This powerhouse group from South Africa employs beautiful harmonies, complex rhythms, colorful costumes and a four-piece band and percussion section. Bono sang with them once, but don't hold that against them. If you don't feel even a little uplifted by their joyous combination of African and American gospel, spirituals, reggae and pop, you need to have your pulse checked.

Mortified's Doomed Valentine's Day Show

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline
$12-$18, 617-734-2500
www.coolidge.org
Mortified is back with their popular annual reading of mortifying tales of teenage love, all taken from the actual adolescent diaries of brave volunteer readers who have boldly owned up to their super-emo pasts. Get tickets soon. They sell out!

THEATER

'Wild Swans'
Saturday through March 11
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
$25-$53, 617-547-8300
www.americanrepertorytheater.org
This play by Alexandra Wood, adapted from the novel by Jung Chang, tells of a family enduring the Maoist revolution in mid-20th century China. Through their limited lens we can glean something of the collective drama of the whole Chinese nation as it ruthlessly disowned its own history and deeply rooted traditions to embrace a new, foreign paradigm.

ART

Daniel Feldman: This Side Up
Through Feb. 25
Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston
Free, 617-451-3605
www.bromfieldgallery.com
This exhibition, designed to play with the ambiguities of human perception, features nine digitally-created archival pigment prints which appear to be images of buildings. But there's something wrong. Feldman's title, taken from the common phrase on the side of moving boxes to help movers distinguish bottom from top, hints at the problem here. And after seeing some of this work, you might not know which end is up.

DANCE

South Asian Showdown
Saturday, 6 p.m.
John Hancock Auditorium
180 Berkeley St., Boston
$20-$100, 617-448-2508
www.southasianshowdown.com
The people who brought you the Boston Bhangra Competition are back with an even more diverse dance event, pitting Bhangra teams against Bollywood/Fusion and Garba/Raas teams to see whose style will reign supreme. Whoever wins, you can expect colorful costumes, elaborate routines, thumping music and superhigh-energy to be the order of the evening.

MATTHEW DINARO

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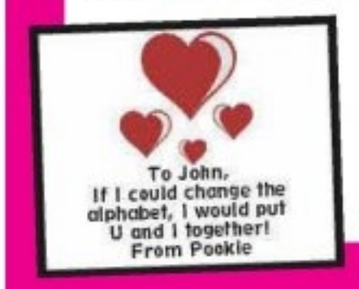

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City of Boston, Thomas M. Menino, Mayor
Department of Neighborhood Development
Evelyn Friedman, Chief and Director

Letters

letters@metro.us

Corporations have a history of neglect

RE: "COMPANIES WANT TO KEEP OUR BUSINESS": Kelly Donnoe repeats the old laissez-faire myth that businesses can be trusted not to harm their customers or the community. Sometimes they do no harm, but history shows that many times they take shortcuts.

HARRY THORN, VIA E-MAIL

Marriage equality is a moral imperative

The reason some decry the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling to overturn California's ban on gay marriage is the very reason to applaud the decision. The court reversed a voter referendum on same-sex marriage, and in doing so circumvented "the will of the people," according to some. However, I'm thankful that the court recognized that marriage equality is not a matter of personal opinion but is in fact a moral imperative.

DAVID TERHUNE, VIA E-MAIL

"Republicans don't want religious freedom; Republicans want religious authoritarianism!"

RE: "BOEHNER VOWS TO BLOCK OBAMA CONTRACEPTIVE RULE": Mr. Boehner, the substance of the Affordable Care Act has been completely distorted by Republican critics. The provision in the act that grants contraception to millions of women at no cost is a common-sense guarantee, a cost-saving provision that provides all women with the empowerment to plan their families. It does nor force individuals to buy or use contraception, not does it cover drugs that cause abortion. Studies have shown that most women, including 98 percent of Catholic women, have used contraception. These women will remember when they vote on Nov. 6.

CHRISTIANE GEISLER, VIA E-MAIL

So now contraception for women is an assault on the freedom of conscience? Whoa, taking a deep breath. Is this a homemade version of a Republican Sharia law, or is America stuck in a time machine that only goes back and back and back? Note to the president: Women are not asking for free contraception, just that it be available and affordable, but thank you anyway and enjoy your second term.

SUZY SANDOR, VIA E-MAIL

As a born and raised Catholic, I feel obligated to speak out against the Church on this birth control issue. Some are saying that the president has "overreached" his authority and that he is infringing on the rights of the Catholic Church. It needs to be said: The Catholic Church does not have any rights! People have rights. And the Church does not have the authority to impose its faith on any people. People have the right to practice their faith, but their faith can never diminish people's rights.

MARTIN LETENDRE, VIA E-MAIL

Republicans completely disregard the religion of the individual by removing our freedom to obtain contraception from hospitals and schools that wish to use their religion to take control of our bodies. Republicans don't want religious freedom; Republicans want religious authoritarianism!

ARTHUR BLENHEIM, MALDEN

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** When there is justification, it's commendable to praise another. However, if you're doing so for less noble reasons, it's likely to backfire on you.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Don't let someone who has trouble managing his or her own financial affairs take care of a money issue for you. If you acquiesce and let this person do it anyway, you'll be sorry.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** If you're having a difficult time making a decision, forgo taking a leadership role. Let someone else who seems to have his or her head on straight call the shots.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** It's one thing to help out a pal who is overwhelmed with work, but don't saddle yourself with a friend's burdens just because he or she can't be bothered to handle them on their own.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** When becoming friendly with a new group, watch out for one member who is somewhat unpopular, and for good reason. She or he might try to glom on to you and drag you down too.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Someone with whom you're closely affiliated might be able to put on pretenses and get away with it, but that doesn't mean you can. The best rule to follow is to simply be yourself.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Just because you haven't heard from a pal who is close to your heart for some time, it doesn't necessarily mean that he or she isn't interested in keeping in touch. Circumstances could have this person tied up.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Money in itself is not evil, but the love of it can sometimes cause people to lower their standards and do things they shouldn't. Don't be one of them.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Don't single out one person in particular to be nice to just because you want a favor that, chances are, you won't get anyway. You'll go further being amiable to everyone.

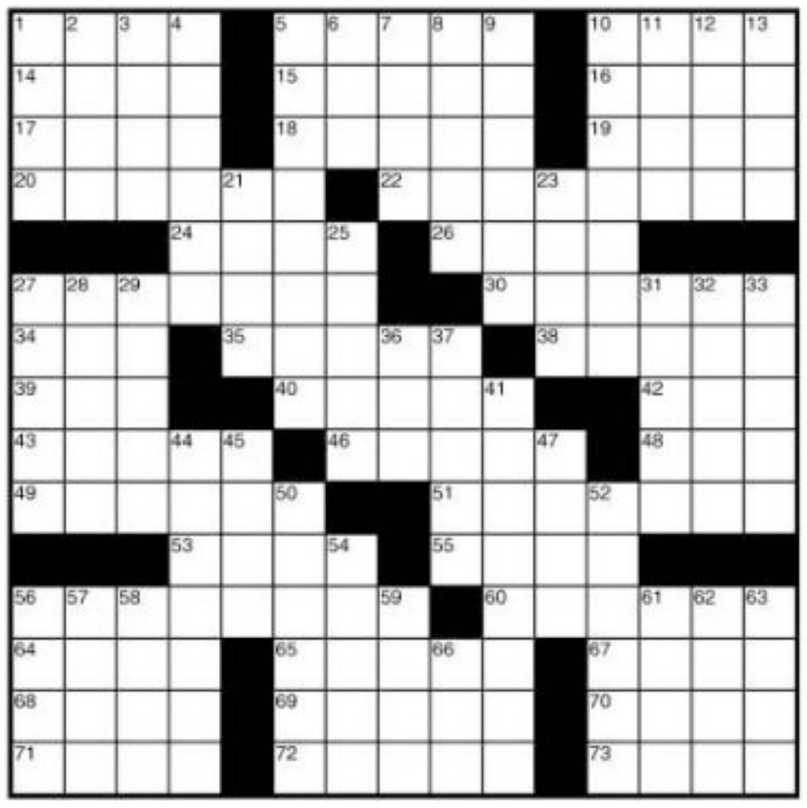
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Beware of any involvement that is off limits, such as an illicit romantic encounter. It might be flattering to be wooed, but it'll create complications.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** An insincere person might try to manipulate you by attempting to make you believe that what he or she is asking of you is for your best interest. If you're smart, you won't take the bait.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** If by chance you are feeling a powerful inclination to be the center of attention, don't do anything silly. All eyes will be focused on you all right, but not for the reasons you think.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 Dust bunny
5 Preclude
10 Headstrong
14 Touche provoker
15 Evoke a grin
16 Bowser's bowlful
17 Complain
18 Nomad dwellings
19 Serve the wine
20 Join up
22 Pliers or talons
24 Reason to sue
26 Peace Prize city
27 Purple-red
30 Swung around
34 RN's group
35 Hazard a guess
38 Fixed gaze
39 Here, to Henri
40 "Slammin' Sammy"
42 Mr. Mineo
43 Addams family butler
46 __ incognita
48 Blond shade
49 Hot, perhaps
51 Rhine nymph
53 Mother lodes
55 Auction shout
56 Scholarship or grant
60 Lectern
64 Wild disturbance
65 Video-game pioneer
67 Jot
68 Buffalo's lake
69 Wish granter
70 Basin companion
71 Fuse together
72 Whodunit award
73 Business encl.



Down
1 Wife, to a lawyer
2 Fairy-tale word
3 Fanatic's feeling
4 Nadir opposite
5 Short excursions (2 wds.)
6 Trendy meat
7 Place-name ending
8 Prefix for physicist
9 Beat back
10 Deep affinity
11 Shampoo additive
12 Railroad siding
13 __ d'oeuvre
21 Just OK (hyph.)
23 Not to mention
25 Pollute
27 Stops working
28 Rough, as a diamond
29 View from Giza
31 Type of spray
32 Remove chalk
33 Metropolis of India
36 Society column word
37 Countesses' husbands
41 More wilted
44 Thickened
45 Beloved of Leander
47 A Guthrie
50 Enya's music (2 wds.)
52 Whirlpools
54 Glutted
56 Fix tea
57 Dublin's land
58 Potting material
59 Director Fritz __
61 29th state
62 All-purpose vehicles
63 Plain on the moon
66 Narrow inlet

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	8				5	2		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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		7	3					5
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8	1		4		3		7	2
		4	1					8
4					8	5		
7	6			3	5			
	5						9	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to Thursday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Beer, chicken 'n' trucks

Sox pack up the truck and head to new complex Saturday ◗ Plenty of issues still to be sorted out before pitchers, catchers report to camp ◗ Ortiz, Beckett seem to be disgruntled

It's Truck Day Saturday for the Red Sox, the first sure sign that spring is fast approaching.

The Red Sox will ceremoniously load the moving van outside Fenway Park for the weeklong journey to Fort Myers, Fla., where spring training will officially begin Feb. 19 with pitchers and catchers reporting to the brand new Fenway South Development Complex and JetBlue Park in Lee County.

Pitchers and catchers will hold their first workouts Feb. 21. Position players report Feb. 23 and the first full team workout will be held on the 25th.

But while the truck will be loaded with the usual bats and balls, all sorts of other baggage will need sorting out upon the team's arrival.

On Monday, David Ortiz will take part in the first arbitration hearing the Red Sox have conducted in a decade. Ortiz will be asking for $16.5 million, while the Red Sox submitted a figure of $12.65. Former GM Theo Epstein avoided these hearings for a reason: Regardless of which side wins, they usually produce an uncomfortable amount of hard feelings, as the team essentially tries to prove why the player doesn't deserve the higher figure. Knowing how proud Big Papi is, and given the whispers about his decline the past three seasons, a bruising affair could leave damaging scars in a clubhouse already in need of healing.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Red Sox pitching staff should look slightly different than it did last March.

Speaking of the clubhouse, Josh Beckett recently told Kevin Millar on MLB Network that what happens there is supposed to stay there, beer and chicken be damned. But Beckett figures to face much harsher scrutiny with the Boston media upon his arrival. How Beckett handles his first true public airing of last season's dirty laundry — and more important, how he responds on the mound — will be a critical early tone-setting test for the embattled ace and his new manager, Bobby Valentine.

JEFF GOLDBERG
sports@metro.us

Sox calendar

A few hardball dates to know this spring:

- **Feb. 11** The annual PR charade of Truck Day!
- **Feb. 19** Voluntary reporting date to Fort Myers for pitchers and catchers
- **Feb. 21** Spring training begins. First workout for Red Sox pitchers and catchers
- **Feb. 25** First full-squad workout
- **March 3** Red Sox spring opener vs. Northeastern (2:35 p.m.), Red Sox vs. Boston College, 7:05 p.m. at JetBlue Park
- **March 4** Grapefruit league opener against Minnesota, 1:35 p.m. at JetBlue Park
- **April 4** 2012 MLB season begins with Cardinals at Marlins
- **April 5** Red Sox season opener at Detroit

In the news

Adios Ocho, welcome back Johnson

If Chad Ochocinco returns to the Pats for 2012, expect him to do it as Chad Johnson. He will switch it back on July 4, according to his Twitter account.

Celtics. Lakers

▶ Paul Pierce was named to his 10th NBA All-Star Game last night prior to playing the Lakers.

GETTY IMAGES

The 14-10 Celtics met the 14-11 Lakers last night at TD Garden with both teams seemingly searching for an identity. Paul Pierce was also announced as the C's lone All-Star representative prior to the game. Visit www.metro.us for more on last night's game. METRO

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